

MINUTES OF A MEETING THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE HELD IN REVINGTONS'
HOTEL, GREYMOUTH. ON 11TH AND 12TH OF JULY 1955. COMMENCING AT
10.0.AM. ON THE FORMER DATE.

PRESENT :

Messrs. E.D. Williams (Chairman), J.W. Fraser, J.D. Lorimer, T.E. Pearson, E.J. Kirk, H. Cloake, The Editor (Mr. J. McFadzien) and the Secretary (Mr. R.A. Fraser.)

MINUTES :

Minutes of the last meeting of the General Executive held in Wellington, on 28th and 29th October 1954 were taken as read on the motion of Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Kirk, these having previously been circulated to Executive Members.

OFFER TO ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION :

Before commencement of the business outlined in the Order Paper the Chairman brought forward a suggestion that the Executive on behalf of the Association offer to provide by way of donation sufficient honey for the requirements of the New Zealand Antarctic Expedition which is to set up bases in the Ross Sea Area in 1956. Mr. Williams pointed out the great advertising value of such a scheme mentioning the possibility of announcing the Association's offer over the radio following inquiries made by Mr. J.W. Fraser in this connection. The Chairman expressed the opinion that the total requirements of the New Zealand Party should not exceed 2 Tons. Mr. Lorimer expressed doubt as to the advertising value of the proposal until such time as it had been accepted by the Ross Sea Committee. Mr. Pearson questioned the Association's ability to meet the Commitment if the Honey Marketing Authority did not assist by supplying ex Pool Stocks. Mr. J.W. Fraser maintained that the Association could pay for the honey out of the financial assistance provision of £1000 which the Authority was now obliged to make available to the Association. Finally on the motion of Mr. J.W. Fraser seconded by Mr. Cloake it was resolved that the following telegram be sent to the Secretary of the Ross Sea Committee;

"In view of honour accorded fellow Beekeeper Sir Edmund Hillary as Leader of N.Z. Party Antarctic Expedition and with desire to make contribution towards success of undertaking, Executive National Beekeepers Association meeting Greymouth today offer to donate honey to full extent of Expeditions requirements. Confirmation by letter."

Mr. McFadzien suggested that the Secretary make it clear when writing that the offer extended to only the New Zealand portion of the Antarctic Expedition.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP RECOMMENDATIONS :

Three recommendations for the granting of Life Membership were brought forward as follows :- Mr. W.B. Bray - Sponsored by the Canterbury Branch per Mr. Pearson; Mr. R. Penny - Sponsored by the South Auckland Branch per Mr. Lorimer; Mr. J. Forster - Sponsored by South Canterbury Branch per Mr. Cloake.

The question was raised as to the qualifications of Mr. Forster for the honour, it being pointed out that although he had rendered great service to the Canterbury Branch over a long period in holding the position of Branch Secretary for over fifteen years and other positions of responsibility he had never been prominent on any of the Dominion-wide Industry Organisations. The view was held that the Association's highest honour should not be lightly bestowed but rather should be reserved for those who had performed an outstanding service to the Industry in a most conspicuous manner.

re Mr. R. Penny :-

The Branch Application drew attention to Mr. Penny's services to the Industry in the following connections.

1. He was associated with the formation of the old Honey Packers Association.
2. Director for many years of Honey Limited.
3. Ten years a Director of the Honey Control Board.
4. Twenty-five years President of the Taranaki Branch N.B.A.

It was moved by Mr. Williams seconded by Mr. Kirk that it be a recommendation from this Executive to Conference "That Mr. R. Penny be elected a Life Member of the Association." Carried.

re W.B. Bray :-

The Case supporting Mr. Bray's nomination was as follows.

1. He was a foundation Member of the National Beekeepers Association.
2. He was Director of the Honey Packers Association.
3. He was Leader in the Research and Advertising Campaigns in the early days of the Honey Industry.
4. He performed outstanding work as an Apiary Instructor for the whole of the South Island in the years 1908-10.

In addition to the above Mr. Bray had often served as President of the Canterbury Branch N.B.A. and had also rendered great assistance at various field days and instruction courses. On the motion of Mr. Williams seconded by Mr. Pearson it was resolved "That the Executive recommend to Conference that Life Membership be granted to Mr. W.B. Bray."

Mr. Kirk felt that the Executive should lay down a definite policy in dealing with Life Membership applications, and to clarify the matter moved as follows: "That before recommending Conference to bestow the honour of Life Membership on any individual the Executive should satisfy itself that the nominee be qualified for this distinction by virtue of service to the Industry in an outstanding or conspicuous manner of Dominion-Wide importance." The motion was seconded by Mr. Lorimer and Carried. Mr. J.W. Fraser while in favour of the motion felt that the value of the services of Branch Officers should not be minimised and recommended that some degree of diplomacy be exercised in dealing with nominations of this nature.

CORRESPONDENCE :- was read and dealt with as follows :

To Mr. J.K. Bray in reply re Control of Imported English Jams advising Executive's feelings on the question of making submissions to the Board of Trade inquiry. Action approved.

" Mr. F.D. Holt re Extension of Branch Circular Service to members in Tauranga Area if they formed themselves into a sub-branch of the South Auckland Branch. Approved.

From The Superintendant Beekeeping Industry, Department of Agriculture advising position in connection with the production of films of Beekeeping by the National Film Unit. Decided on the motion of Mr. Cloake, seconded by Mr. Pearson "That further representations be made through the Department of Agriculture for the making of 16 Milimeter film for inclusion in the National Film Library." - Action on this resolution to be withheld pending interview with Mr. T.S. Winter on the subject and to ascertain what programme the Department had under way at the present time.

To The Director General of Agriculture, conveying appreciation of the Services of the Department's Extension Division in carrying out a re-costing of Production Schedules preparatory to the lodgement of an application for a new price order.

Letter Approved.

- From The Superintendent Beekeeping Industry, Department of Agriculture in connection with directions issued to Apiary Instructors in the matter of sub-standard Honey Houses.
- Letter Received.
- " The Chairman New Zealand Honey Marketing Authority in reply advising steps taken by the Authority to implement 1954 Conference Recommendations. Letter Received.
- To The Director General, Department of Agriculture re Amendments to the Honey Marketing Regulations 1953 (Three Letters.)
- From The Director General, Department of Agriculture in reply re same (Three Letters) and enclosing copy of Amended Regulations Gazetted on 16th June 1955. Members discussed the Amendments to the Regulations and Mr. J.W. Fraser expressed disappointment that the Conference recommendation that voting qualifications be based on two years supply of Honey or two years purchases of Seals had been overlooked and he moved "That action be set in train to have the Regulations further Amended to include the provisions requested by Conference that voting qualifications be based on an average of two years supply of Honey to the Authority or two years Seals purchases." This was seconded by Mr. Lorimer and Carried.
- " New Zealand Honey Marketing Authority acknowledging receipt of advertising leaflet forwarded for their information.
- " Mr. A. Mawhinney re Operations of Honey Marketing Authority, and Policy of the Association.
- To Mr. A .W. Mawhinney in reply. Letter Approved.
- From New Zealand Honey Marketing Authority summarising details of Honey Contracts for 1954/55 Season. Received.
- " Mr. W.G. Bassett re Late Advice of New Price Order.
- To The Secretary, Price Tribunal re New Price Order.
- " Director of Price Control re same.
- " The Minister Industries and Commerce re same.
- From The above in reply explaining reason for delay in notification and enclosing copy of new Price Order. Letter Received. Further action to be withheld until after Conference.
- " The Invercargill Licensing Trust, copy of Letter forwarded to Mr. J.W. Fraser re the allocation of Accommodation for the

Association's 1956 Conference in Invercargill.

Mr. Fraser advised that the Southland Branch would undertake to circularize Branches and Direct Members in connection with the accommodation arrangements so that this matter would not devolve upon the General Secretary. Mr. J.D. Lorimer presented a letter from the South Auckland Branch requesting that the venue of the 1956 Conference be altered to a North Island central point. It was contended that the holding of two successive Conferences in remote parts of the South Island imposed a heavy financial drain on Branch funds in sending Delegates to attend so that in many instances far-flung North Island Branches would be without representation at the Conference at all. Mr. J.W. Fraser maintained that the previous Conference decision to hold the 1956 fixture in Invercargill should stand especially in view of the fact that arrangements were already in train. It was also pointed out that most South Island Branch Delegates met their own expenses to Conference with the assistance in some instances of a small Branch Subsidy. Members supported the view that the Invercargill arrangements should stand unaltered and in connection with the letter from South Auckland Branch it was moved by Mr. Fraser seconded by Mr. Lorimer "That no action be taken." This was Carried. Mr. Lorimer offered to bring forward details of a system operated in the Boy Scout Movement for the subsidising of Delegates expenses which he stated worked very satisfactorily.

To Mr. R. Davidson re Branch Returns.
From Mr. Davidson in the same regard. - Secretary's action upheld. The Secretary advised that he was preparing a simplified form for the assistance of Branch Secretaries in submitting Returns of Collection.
" Mr. J.R. Barber requesting inclusion of a remit in the order paper for Conference.
To Mr. Barber in reply advising that request would be placed before Executive. It was considered that the granting of Mr. Barber's request would be setting a dangerous precedent and on the motion of Mr. J.W. Fraser seconded by Mr. Cloake

it was decided that Mr. Barber's request be declined and that the Executive's decision and reasons for same be conveyed to Mr. Barber.

At this juncture the Chairman presented his Annual Report which was to be read at Conference. After brief consideration of the Report the Meeting was adjourned, the time being 4.45. p.m.

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12TH JULY 1955 The Meeting Resumed at 10.00 a.m. with Mr. J.W. Fraser in the Chair, Mr. E.D. Williams having been granted leave of absence to attend a Meeting of the Honey Marketing Authority.

CONSIDERATION OF ANNUAL ACCOUNTS :

The Secretary presented the Annual Accounts and Balance Sheet for consideration. In answer to a question by Mr. Cloake the Secretary advised that the increased cost of the printing and distribution of the Journal resulting from the enlarged circulation was closely in line with the estimate submitted at the previous Executive Meeting. The increased printing and postage charges had, for three enlarged issues, amounted to a little over £50. The net cost of the Journal per annum after allowing for Editor's Honorarium and Expenses and after off-setting income from advertising, amounted to approximately £275 per annum on the enlarged distribution.

In further consideration of the Balance Sheet the Secretary pointed out that the Association had closed its Financial Year with a £100 less in hand than at the commencement. The obvious need for greater finance to enable the Association to carry out a full and useful programme during the year was recognized by all members. It was felt in this regard that the Association should apply immediately to the Honey Marketing Authority for a further grant before the close of that body's Financial Year. It was moved by Mr. Lorimer seconded by Mr. Cloake "That application be made immediately to the Honey Marketing Authority for a further sum of £200 from the Pool Provision Account." An amendment was moved by Mr. Pearson seconded by Mr. Kirk as follows : "That the amount applied for be £250." On being put the amendment was carried and was also carried as the motion. On the motion of Mr. J.W. Fraser the Report and Balance Sheet were approved.

JOURNALS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES :

The Editor brought forward a suggestion which had been

previously made by the Director of the Marketing Department that copies of the Association's Journal be placed in the Public Library in Wellington. Mr. McFadzien suggested that the Journal be placed free in the Public Library of the four main centres. On the motion of Mr. Cloake seconded by Mr. Lorimer it was resolved "That steps be taken to have the Journal "The N.Z. Beekeeper" placed in Public Libraries in the four main centres subject to the prior approval of the Honey Marketing Authority in view of the fact that their Reports are published therein."

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PUBLIC RISK INSURANCE :

In the course of consideration of the bulk policy Public Risk Insurance arranged by the Association for the benefit of members, discussion took place on the liability of Beekeepers in respect of hazards not covered under the bulk policy. It was felt that possibly many Beekeepers were largely ignorant on the complex subject of Insurance and Insurable risks and it was decided that the Editor ask Mr. G.E. Gumbrell to prepare two articles on the subject for inclusion in future copies of the Beekeeper.

OTHER JOURNAL MATTERS.

Mr. McFadzien expressed the opinion that much capital could be made of the value of bees as pollination agents. He suggested that articles on the subject should be prepared for the Journal of Agriculture and also for our own Journal with reprints available to Beekeepers on application for issue to farmers on whose property they wish to set down Apiaries. The Executive agreed whole-heartedly with this suggestion and it was left to Mr. McFadzien to make necessary arrangements.

The Editor brought forward further suggestions that a "Swap or Sell" column be inserted in the Journal for the assistance of Beekeepers in disposing of unused or discarded plant. It was generally agreed that the idea was a good one although apprehension was felt over the effect on the Association's income where Beekeepers used the "Swap and Sell" column instead of paying the advertisement rates for insertion. Mr. Kirk suggested that a small charge should be made for the use of the column. After discussion it was resolved on the motion of Mr. Kirk seconded by Mr. Cloake, "That a "Swap or Sell" column be instituted in the Journal for the disposal of second-hand equipment, the charge to be 2/6 per insertion with a maximum space of 1 inch - the continuation of the column to be at the discretion of the Editor in the light of

experience gained."

MEMBERSHIP POSITION :

The Secretary advised that from interim figures he had taken out, the total membership of the Association had remained largely the same as for the previous year. There was however a very noticeable falling-off of membership in some Branches, notably Taranaki, Central-Southern Hawkes Bay and Wellington, and it appeared that this was largely due to the scattered nature of the area and the difficulty in getting attendances at Branch Meetings. Interest appeared to be flagging in these cases with resultant dropping-off of membership. The Secretary suggested that with the Association's object of embracing the largest possible proportion of Beekeepers in the Dominion other means of retaining the interest of those in outlying areas may be worth consideration. He suggested that those Beekeepers who failed to renew their membership at Branch Centres be circularized and invited to join the Association once more as Direct Members through which medium they would enjoy the same information service that Branches receive. After discussion it was decided that this action be taken in the case of Wellington area and the Taranaki area and if membership grew substantially as a result efforts could be made at a later date to resuscitate the Branches. The cost of the service supplied to Direct Members was discussed in relation to those who paid a minimum subscription. As the number of Direct Members who paid the minimum subscription was comparatively small however it was decided that a review of subscription rates for Direct Members was not justified meantime.

MATERIAL FOR JOURNAL :

Mr. Cloake observed that the majority of the material in the Journal related to South Island Branch activities, largely as a result of the Editor's efforts in attending field days and other functions throughout the Island. He suggested that possibly similar cover could be given to North Island activity by the appointment of a sub-editor to cover this Island. Mr. J.W. Fraser held the view that if Branch Press Officers were doing their job conscientiously this would not be required. The General Secretary was asked to draw the attention of Branches in the North Island to the need for more material from their Press Officers.

NEW HONEY PRICE ORDER :

Mr. Cloake drew attention to an error in the new Price Order

gazetted on the 27th January 1955 in that section Comb Honey was still included in the items under price control. This item had been removed from control some two years ago. The Secretary was instructed to write to the Price Tribunal asking them to rectify the matter and also to write to the Secretary of the New Zealand Master Grocers Association pointing out the error and asking them to advise their Members accordingly.

At this point the Meeting adjourned for lunch the time being 12.45. p.m.

RESUMPTION :

The Meeting resumed at 1.30. p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF REMITS :

Members gave detailed consideration to each of the remits coming forward at Conference. With regard to Remits numbers 16 and 18 dealing with the economic value of bees on aerial top dressed Marginal Hill Country and the value of bees as pollination agents generally, it was felt that valuable publicity could be gained through the N.Z. Broadcasting Service 'Farmers Session.' Accordingly it was decided on the motion of Mr. Claoke seconded by Mr. Lorimer "That it be a recommendation to Conference that the N.Z. Broadcasting Service be granted facilities on the first day of Conference to record the Opening Addresses and also on the second day of Conference to record the Conference discussion and decisions on Remits 16 and 18."

There being no further general business the Meeting then terminated.

CONFIRMED.

DATE 19.10.55.....

CHAIRMAN. E. S. Williams.

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE HELD IN
REVINGTONS' HOTEL ON FRIDAY 15TH JULY 1955 AT 1.30 PM. ON THE
REQUISITION OF THE PRESIDENT MR. E.D. WILLIAMS.

PRESENT :-

Messrs. E.D. Williams (President), J.W. Fraser, J.D. Lorimer, T.E. Pearson, E.J. Kirk, H. Cloake, The Editor (Mr. J. McFadzien) and the Secretary (Mr. R.A. Fraser.)

REPRESENTATIVE ON H.M.A. :

On the motion of Mr. Kirk seconded by Mr. J.W. Fraser it was resolved "That Mr. E.D. Williams be reappointed as the Association's representative on the Honey Marketing Authority for the ensuing year." It was pointed out that the President was by reason of his position most eminently suitable to fill this office as he was able to speak with a voice of authority on behalf of the Association. The Secretary was instructed to advise the Manager of the H.M.A. of the appointment.

H.M.A. ELECTIONS :-

Voting Procedure :

Some concern was expressed that the Amending Regulations failed to outline the details of the Voting Procedure and instructions to be issued to Electors. It was felt that the Association should take steps to see that the instructions issued to Electors were perfectly clear and that the conduct of the Election be generally in conformity with the Industry's desires. To test the feelings of the Meeting, Messrs. Williams and Pearson moved "That Mr. T.S. Winter be asked to take up the matter of voting procedure in the forthcoming H.M.A. Elections with the Returning Officer to ensure that instructions sent out to Voters be sufficiently clear so that no ambiguity of construction would arise and also that no block voting be provided for or permitted in the Election." On being put to the Vote those in favour were Messrs. Williams, Pearson and Fraser and those against were Messrs. Lorimer, Kirk and Cloake. The Chairman declined to give a casting vote and the resolution lapsed. After further discussion it was decided that the Returning Officer be asked to issue instructions to the Voters as follows :-

1. The Elector may record his vote for any number of candidates not exceeding four.

2. The Elector to strike out the names of the candidates for whom he does not wish to vote.
3. The names left to each carry the number of votes stated on top of the Voting Paper.
4. Should more than four names be left uncancelled the voting paper to be declared informal.

ADVERTISING PROGRAMME :

In view of the fact that the Honey Marketing Authority had not yet embarked upon any substantial advertising programme it was moved by Mr. J.W. Fraser seconded by Mr. Cloake "That the Honey Marketing Authority be requested to put into operation immediately their long-mooted plans for advertising Honey." - Carried.

VENUES FOR FUTURE CONFERENCES :

Some considerable discussion took place on the relative merits of holding Conference regularly in a central position or changing the venue among the major centres of the Beekeeping Industry in the Dominion. Decision on this matter was held over until Conference 1956.

NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING :

It was decided that the next Executive Meeting be held at the Grand Hotel, Wellington on the 19th and 20th October 1955 subject to the Secretary being able to arrange suitable accommodation.

There being no further business the Meeting then terminated the time being 4.30 p.m.

CONFIRMED.

DATE 19/10/55

CHAIRMAN E.D. Williams.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Gentlemen,

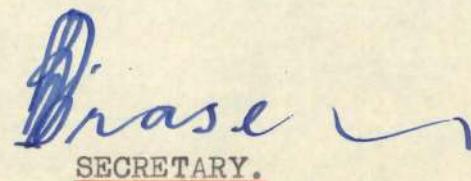
I have to report that the Bank Balance this day is one of CREDIT £423. 8. 2 membership receipts to date total £145. 10. 0 and a further £112. 0. 0 can be expected from this source for the balance of the year.

Liabilities for the balance of the year appear to be as follows :-

Journal (Including Editor's Honorarium, Expenses & Printing less Advertising Revenue.)	165. 0. 0.
Travelling Expenses.	75. 0. 0.
Executive Meetings.	75. 0. 0.
Honey for Ross Sea.	100. 0. 0.
Miscellaneous.	100. 0. 0.
Secretary's Salary (at present rate).	175. 0. 0.
President's Honorarium.	25. 0. 0.
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	£715. 0. 0.
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£250 has been uplifted from the H.M.A. Honey Pool Account since the beginning of the Association's financial year but as this was paid before the end of the H.M.A's financial year £1000 is still available from this source before 31st. August 1956, Accounts totalling £503. 17. 5. require to be passed for payment. All have been paid and are taken into account in the above-stated bank balance.

Yours faithfully,


SECRETARY.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE HELD IN THE GRAND
HOTEL, WELLINGTON, ON WEDNESDAY 19TH AND THURSDAY 20TH OCTOBER,
1955, COMMENCING AT 10.00. A.M. ON THE FORMER DATE.

PRESENT :- Messrs. E.D. Williams (Chairman), H. Cloake, J.W. Fraser, T. Pearson, J.D. Lorimer and the Secretary (Mr. R.A. Fraser.)
APOLOGIES.

Apologies were received from Messrs. E.J. Kirk and J. McFadzien who were unable to attend and leave of absence granted.

MINUTES of the last Meeting of the Executive held in Greymouth on the 11th. and 12th. of July 1955, were read and confirmed. In connection with the broadcasting arrangements which had been made at the 1955 Conference Mr. J.W. Fraser mentioned that Stations 4YZ and 3YZ had re-broadcast the Conference discussions on Remits Nos. 16 and 18 in their 'Farmers Sessions' these having received favourable comment from several farmers. He advised that he had contacted the Station Manager Mr. Rollenson at 4YZ who had intimated his willingness to provide similar coverage for the 1956 Conference in Invercargill. Members expressed their approval of this arrangement and commended Mr. Fraser for his actions.

CONGRATULATIONS.

At this juncture the Chairman extended the Executive's congratulations to Mr. T.E. Pearson on his election to the Honey Marketing Authority at the recent Poll. Mr. Williams stated that while the Executive were pleased to see Mr. Pearson appointed to this body it was with some regret that they must farewell him from the ranks of the Executive where he had served so well. Mr. Pearson suitably replied.

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING, - HELD ON 15TH JULY 1955 were also read and confirmed. Members generally expressed satisfaction at the instructions which had been issued to voters by the Returning Officer in connection with the recent Honey Marketing Authority Election. Copies of correspondence to and from the Department of Agriculture in this connection were taken as read, these having been previously circularised to Members. In the matter of advertising which the Executive had recommended the Authority to undertake, the Chairman reported that the only advertising envisaged by the Authority at the moment was by sales promotion displays in Grocer shops throughout the Country. Mr. J.W. Fraser suggested that a

questionnaire be sent to householders in certain areas by the Honey Marketing Authority to ascertain 1. Their usage of honey. 2. Whether they buy by brand name or 3. Whether they buy by type. In the ensuing discussion the majority opinion did not favour postal questionnaires as experience had shown in the majority of cases these were discarded and therefore the results obtained were inconclusive.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Secretary presented a statement of the Association's current financial position which showed a Credit Balance £423. 8. 2. at date. Estimated expenditure for balance of the year totalled £715. and expected revenue £112. On the motion of Mr. J.W. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Cloake it was resolved "That application be made to the Honey Marketing Authority for the uplifting of £500 from the Pool Provision Account." After further consideration on the statement before the Meeting it was moved by Mr. Pearson, seconded by Mr. Fraser "That the financial statement be received and that the accounts amounting to £503. 17. 5. be passed for payment. - Carried.

USE OF TOXIC SPRAYS.

Further to the severe losses experienced by beekeepers in Canterbury through the use of Lindane as an Agricultural spray the Secretary acquainted Members with the steps he had taken in approaching the acting Minister of Agriculture and releasing a Statement for the Press in an effort to prevent a recurrence of the disaster. He also advised that he committed the Executive to a possible expenditure of up to £100 to ensure that the Department of Agriculture's Research Officer at present in England could be diverted to the United States on his way home to this country to study control measures in force there in regulating the use of toxic Agriculture sprays, and sought approval for his actions. The Chairman and Members endorsed the Secretary's action and commended him for his initiative and prompt action. Mr. T. Pearson gave a resume of his own experiences in the use of Lindane which had resulted in damage to bees and equipment estimated in the vicinity of £1000. He stated that from enquiries made it appeared that approximately 500 tons of Lindane was being imported or was already in the country. This indicated that spraying would not be confined merely to flowering coniferous crops but was likely to be extended to turnip crops and even grass-lands in the control of grass-grubs. He expressed the opinion that

if further indiscriminate spraying was carried out with Lindane it could well spell ruin to the whole Beekeeping Industry in this country, and this view was supported by all Members. Mr. Cloake mentioned that although turnip was a non-flowering crop, bees collected moisture and dew in the early morning from turnip leaves and it was therefore necessary that measures sought for the control of spraying be not confined solely to flowering crops. Mr. J.W. Fraser expressed concern at the apparent lack of co-ordination between the activities of D.S.I.R. and the Department of Agriculture, in that complete testing of Lindane had not been carried out before its use was recommended as an Agricultural spray. In view of the extreme danger which the use of Lindane and other new and equally toxic sprays created, all members subscribed to the view that the Government should be asked for regulation under the Apiaries Act to provide protection for Beekeepers in the same way as had been done in the spraying of fruit trees.

At this juncture the Meeting received Mr. T.S. Winter, Superintendant of the Beekeeping, Department of Agriculture. Mr. Winter detailed the action taken by his Department since the disasterous use of Lindane in Canterbury had been brought to notice and advised that the Minister of Agriculture was anxious to avoid regulations until a complete survey had been made of the position and the opinions and advice of all interested parties had been received. He stated that a Meeting of various Departmental Officers had been held in Wellington on the 18th. of October at which it had been decided to call a Meeting of all interested parties in Christchurch towards the end of November. Officers of the D.S.I.R. and Department of Agriculture would be in attendance also representatives of Farming Interests and he suggested that representatives of the Canterbury and South Canterbury Branch of the Beekeepers Association also attend.

In discussing the Association's representation at this meeting it was decided that Messrs. Pearson and Cloake represent the Canterbury and South Canterbury Branches and that either the President or Vice-President of the Association be also present.

In the meantime Mr. Winter stated that the Department were endeavouring to control the use of dangerous sprays by issuing Press and radio propoganda pointing out to Farmers the danger of their use. The Director of Civil Aviation was also being asked to circularize all

licensed Aerial operators advising the safe times for the application of various toxic sprays. Mr. Winter mentioned that the Civil Aviation regulations 1953 prohibited the dropping from Aircraft of any materials dangerous to persons or property.

At the request of the Executive, Mr. Dawson, Secretary of the Agricultural and Seed Growing section of Federated Farmers attended the Meeting at this stage. He stated that the Federation was aware of the seriousness of the position and realised that further destruction of bees must be obviated not only in the interests of Beekeepers but also of Seed Growers if successful pollination was to be carried out in the crops. The Federation would make every effort to co-operate and prevent further disasters, and would circularise all branches in this connection.

After Mr. Dawson had left the Meeting it was moved by Mr. J.W. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Pearson "That the attention of the Director of Civil Aviation be drawn to the recent disasterous poisoning of Honey Bee stocks in Canterbury following areial dusting of Brassica Crops with Lindane and that he be asked to draw the attention of Aircraft operators undertaking Areial spraying to the obligations placed on them under Section 32 of the Civil Aviation Regulations 1953." - Carried. (A copy of this letter to be forwarded to the Minister and Director General of Agriculture, also the Director of Horticulture.)

It was further moved by Mr. J.W. Fraser, and seconded by Mr. Lorimer "That the Executive of this Association express its appreciation to the Minister for the prompt action taken by him and his Departmental Officers in the recent emergency which arose in Canterbury as a result of the use of Lindane, at the same time deplored the fact that so little control is exercised over the importation and use of highly toxic sprays and dusts and strongly urging that adequate machinery be set up to safeguard the Industry from any similar occurrence in the future." - Carried.

In view of the report given to the Executive by Mr. Winter it was decided to withhold any further action until after the Meeting in Christchurch.

DEPARTMENTAL OFFICER TO STUDY IN U.S.A.

In reference to the remit passed at the last Conference requesting the Department of Agriculture to send an Officer to U.S.A. to study production, packing and marketing methods in that Country, Mr. Winter advised that there appeared to be little hope of getting an

Officer overseas by next year owing to travelling priorities existing in other sections of the Departments work and a limited vote for expenditure of this nature. He also advised that any Officer sent overseas would be unable to study marketing methods as this was outside the scope of the Department being more a matter for the H.M.A. to conduct research on. Mr Winter suggested however that the Executive put forward its case indicating the urgency and also what financial contribution if any it would be prepared to make to expedite the sending of an Officer overseas to study in this field. Mr. Williams felt that the matter was not of sufficient urgency to warrant the expending of Associations funds. Mr. J.W. Fraser held that the matter was of importance in that Beekeepers in this country had a lot to learn both in packaged bee management and the use of new equipment. This contention was supported by Mr. Lorimer who felt that study of American methods of sterilization of honey to prevent fermentation warranted the sending of an Officer overseas alone. New methods of packing were also of importance. Mr. Cloake viewed the proposal to expend the Association funds for this purpose with some concern and felt that if there was little possibility of getting an Officer overseas this year the matter should be referred back to Conference. It was decided that the Secretary lodge a formal application to the Department for the sending of an Officer overseas in terms of the resolution to Conference and that Mr. J.W. Fraser and Mr. Lorimer write to Mr. Winter conveying their suggestions as to what particular aspects of production and management it was desired the investigations should cover.

HONEY MEAD PRODUCTION PROPOSALS.

At the invitation of the Executive Mr. F. Martin a Research Chemist of the Vacuum Oil Company attended the Meeting to acquaint Members with the results of various experiments which he had carried out in the production of Honey Mead. Mr. Martin stated that the experiments were of an extensive nature covering the use of different methods of achieving fermentation and the use of several different types of Honey and owing to the length of time needed for maturing he regretted that samples were not yet available in quantity for members to try. Mr. Martin felt that the production of Honey Mead would offer the Beekeeping Industry a valuable outlet in the disposal of darker grade and unsaleable honey. His object in meeting the Executive was aquaint them with the work which he was carrying out and to ascertain whether they would support

him in seeking market protection until the product was firmly established on the market. He pointed out that if the production and sale of Honey-Mead was as freely licensed as local wines, the sale of inferior meads could wreck the market before it was thoroughly established. No protection was wanted against the production and sale of good quality meads, the only control which Mr. Martin considered necessary being that of a licensing authority operating to exclude the sale of a poorer product. Mr. Martin was assured that when the appropriate time arrived and production on a commercial basis was planned he could rely on the Executive's fullest sympathy and support.

At this juncture the meeting was adjourned until 9.30 a.m. on the following morning, the time being 5.50 p.m.

20/10/55.

Resumption 9.30 a.m.

In further consideration of the proposals for the production of honey mead the Secretary read a letter from Mr. S. Graham of West Coast urging the Executive to consider the possibility of getting up an industry organisation for the production of mead in the same way as the Honey Marketing Authority controlled the marketing of bulk honey supplies. Mr. Graham felt the profits from the production and sale of mead should go to the industry rather than to private interests. Mr. Cloake maintained that the N.B.A. could not get mixed up with the production itself although he admitted there was danger of a monopoly arising if the Executive acceded wholly to the requests of Mr. Martin. Mr. J.W. Fraser expressed the opinion that Mr. Martin's proposals were quite reasonable under the circumstances and he was supported by Mr. Pearson in this view. The only interest which the industry should have was in the disposal of unsaleable honey and if this was achieved through the production of mead by private interests so much the better.

CONFERENCE RECOMMENDATIONS.

Number 12. Government Subsidy.

The Secretary reported that he had conferred with the Dominion Secretary of the Fruit Growers Federation to ascertain what steps had been taken in the past by fruit growers in seeking financial assistance from the Government especially in those years where seasonal conditions had resulted in losses being incurred. It appeared that no such approach had ever been made to the Government he stated, and asked what steps

the Executive desired him to take in implementing the Conference decision. The resolution carried at Conference read "That Conference request the Government to subsidise the Honey Industry through the Honey Marketing Authority such amount to be equivalent to the seals levy collected in any one year with a view to bringing Beekeepers standard of living more into line with that of other primary producers". Mr. Cloake held the view that in any application for a subsidy on the grounds that Beekeepers incomes were below a reasonable standard of living, the difficulty would be one of proof. The Government would be able to obtain confidential information from its Departments which would clearly indicate that Beekeepers incomes generally were quite compatible with a reasonable standard of living. The Chairman questioned this claim stating that beekeepers in areas producing dark honey had difficulty in securing a reasonable living even in good seasons. Mr. J.W. Fraser believed that difficulty would experienced in producing evidence to show that beekeepers were going out of honey production through uneconomic operations, when the Dominion hive population had increased substantially over the past years. He felt that the only hope which the Association would have of success in a case for a subsidy would be by quoting specific areas where lean times had forced beekeepers to seek other more remunerative occupations such as in Taranaki. Mr. Pearson questioned whether the Association should be encouraging the production of dark honeys by subsidy when this honey was already an embarrassment to the Honey Marketing Authority. The Secretary asked whether the value of the pollination service to Agriculture was very great in these dark-Honey areas. The Chairman stated that it was so and gave for an example Waikato area, one of the most important Dairying areas in the Dominion which never-the-less produced predominantly dark honeys.

After further discussion it was finally moved by Mr. J.W. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Pearson "That the matter of an application to the Government for a subsidy in terms of the Conference resolution be held over until the H.M.A's. final payout for last year be known and the degree of uneconomic operation, if any, can be gauged." - Carried.

It was further decided that in the meantime the Secretary should endeavour to obtain from the Department of Agriculture information as to any known cases where beekeepers had gone out of operation through economic difficulties.

Number 15. Apiary Identification.

The Secretary sought an indication from the Executive as to whether any further action was desired on his part further to Conference carrying the resolution "That this Conference supports the President's appeal for some system of Apiary identification and urge the Executive to formulate a course action to ensure that ownership of outlying Apiaries, may readily established." The General feeling was that beekeepers would not mark their hives in outlying Apiaries until required to do so by regulation and further publicity by the Association was useless. The matter now rested with the Department of Agriculture and it was decided that the Executive would support the Department of Agriculture in what-ever course the Department considered necessary and desirable to rectify the present conditions. It was mentioned that provision already existed in the Apiaries Act enabling Inspectors to destroy neglected Apiaries and this discretionary power of Apiary Inspectors may possibly give the Department an opportunity to take some definite action.

Number 17.

"That the Department of Industries and Commerce be advised that the monopoly of cannister manufacturers in the South Island is not giving service to the Industry". After the discussion of the position obtaining it was moved by Mr. Pearson, seconded by Mr. J.W. Fraser "That no action be taken in the light of investigations carried out by the Executive revealing a position contrary to that stated in the remit." - Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE was read and dealt with as follows :-

From The Secretary Forest and Bird Protection Society in Connection with the infestation of bush by wasps.

To Same in reply.

From Same in similar connection. Letters Received.

To Mr. P.A. Hillary in reply supplying information concerning Branch strengths. The Secretary sought a direction from the Executive as to whether information of this nature should be supplied to individual members in future. It was assumed that the main reason for asking for this information was to assist in the guaging of support in the bringing forward of remits at Conference. It was decided that in future, information be supplied only to Branches or to Direct Members

on application.

- To The Station Manager, New Zealand Broadcasting Service, Station 2YA, in connection with the re-broadcast of a programme entitled "Honey Bees their Life, Work and Fate."
- From The Station Manager in reply advising that every effort would be made to re-broadcast later in the year.
- From Mr. L.G. Corlett on behalf of producers in the Tauranga area wishing to form a sub-Branch of the South Auckland Branch.
- To Mr. Corlett in reply.
- To Mr. F.D. Holt in the same connection.
- From Mr. L.G. Corlett, a further letter advising that following a meeting of producers it had been decided to apply to the Executive for permission to form a full Branch in the Tauranga area to be known as the Taneatua Branch.
- To Mr. L.G. Corlett in reply advising that the matter would be placed before the Executive. It was moved by Mr. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Lorimer "That the Executive approves of the formation of a new Branch in the Tauranga area to be known as the Taneatua Branch, but that the Branch be requested not to draw members from existing Branches in the area unless these members voluntarily express the desire to change to the new Branch." - Carried.
- From The Secretary, Ross Sea Committee, thanking the Association for its offer to supply honey to the Antarctic Expedition 1956 and advising that the expedition's requirements would be communicated when known. - Letter Received. In explanation, the Secretary advised that he had spoken with Mr. B.J. Law, Vice-Chairman of the Ross Sea Committee and had learnt that the Committee were conducting careful research into the estimated requirements of the expedition before taking out stores requisitions.
- To Mr. J. McFadzien, Editor of the N.Z. Beekeeper in reply re Attendance at Executive Meeting and also in connection with salary. The Secretary sought a firm indication from the Executive on the matter of the Editor's attendance at Executive Meetings in future. Members generally agreed that the Editor should be in attendance but it was realized that in

some instances it may not be entirely necessary for him to be present. It was therefore decided that the attendance of the Editor at future meetings of the Executive be left to the discretion of the Secretary or President. The Secretary also raised the question of a review of the Editor's Salary stating that it was quite obvious that the Editor was still considerably under-paid for the amount of time and work involved in the production of the Journal. Members agreed that it was quite probable that Mr. McFadzien was being underpaid for his services at the moment but on the motion of Mr. J.W. Fraser it was decided to hold over consideration of an increase until the next meeting.

From A.M. Satterthwaite & Co. two letters concerning the use of Terramycin in the control of American Foul Brood.

To A.M. Satterthwaite & Co. in reply suggesting that they refer the matter to the Department of Agriculture for testing before distributing supplies of the new treatment to Beekeepers. The Secretary advised that he had forwarded copies of the correspondence to Mr. T.S. Winter with the request that the Department co-operate in the testing of the new treatment. A circular had been prepared and sent to Branches and Direct Members warning them against the use of Terramycin until tests have been carried out by the Department of Agriculture and the treatment had received the Department's endorsement. - Action Approved.

After the luncheon adjournment, Mr. T.S. Winter was again in attendance.

In further consideration of Terramycin, Mr. Winter advised that upon receipt of correspondence from the Secretary and the firm, he had immediately communicated with Mr. T. Palmer-Jones in England, requesting him to carry out investigations into the use of the treatment in the U.K.

Mr. Winter stated that the Department of Agriculture viewed the importation and distribution of the new drugs and chemicals with grave concern and this further instance would strengthen the case for the setting up of a Board of Control to deal with the matter.

DIPLOMA IN BEEKEEPING.

Consideration was given to the suggestion made by the

Director of Horticulture, that the Association set out a syllabus and provide examination facilities for beekeepers with a view to issuing a Diploma of proficiency. It was the Director's view that this would raise the status of Beekeepers. Mr. Winter stated that the provision of tutoring and examining facilities would involve the Association in a fairly substantial volume of extra work and expense.

Mr. Cloake felt that before the Executive could give serious consideration to the matter it would be necessary to have an indication from the Department of Agriculture as to the scope of the course required and the standard of proficiency aimed at.

Mr. J.W. Fraser considered that the Association was not big enough or financial enough to pursue the matter at the moment. He suggested that possibly the Department may be able to do something in the matter in following up the Conference recommendation that the Department carry out a programme of educating farmers as to the value of bees as pollination agents and the problems encountered by the Beekeeping industry.

Mr. Winter suggested that the Association may be able to do a partial job by setting an annual examination with the object of supplying a Certificate to those who could satisfy the examiners that they had a thorough knowledge of the craft of beekeeping.

After further discussion it was resolved on the motion of Mr. J.W. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Cloake. "That having considered the recommendation of the Director of Horticulture that the Association sponsor a course in Beekeeping with a view to issuing Diplomas of Proficiency, this Executive finds it impracticable in view of the size of the Industry and the funds available, but urges that existing courses taken in both Agricultural Colleges be extended to include a short course in the study of Beekeeping and its value to Agriculture generally."

Mr. Fraser felt that Beekeepers would be only too pleased to assist with practical demonstration and instruction at such courses.

SUB-STANDARD HONEY-HOUSES.

Mr. Winter advised that he had every reason to believe that the Health Department were now tightening-up in the enforcement of a strict standard of hygiene in honey-houses and beekeepers who had not already brought their packing facilities up to standard would be required to do so.

MEMBERSHIP POSITION.

The Secretary advised that he had not proceeded further with

his intention of writing to the one-time members of now defunct branches inviting them to join the Association again as direct members, as it had been found that in 98% of the cases those who had failed to renew were hobbyists paying a minimum subscription of 7/6d.

He felt that further investigation of the membership position was needed before a course of action could be decided upon and he would endeavour to bring down a more complete report at the next meeting.

RE-APPOINTMENT OF GENERAL SECRETARY AND FIXING OF SALARY.

The Secretary drew attention to the fact that his appointment had been for one year only and this had now elapsed. As requested by the Executive he had costed the work involved in the position and after allowing a 15% tolerance for additional time spent through being partially unfamiliar with the work, it had been shown that the position would be uneconomic at less than £469 for the year. This figure included staff's time actually spent on Association work and also a proportion of direct office overhead, reducing the return for the Secretary's own work to something like £325.

Mr. J.W. Fraser stated that from enquiries he had made, the Secretary's figures were quite reasonable. Members considered that Mr. R.A. Fraser had carried out the Secretarial duties satisfactorily and appreciated the fact that he could not continue to engage in work that was unremunerative

After brief discussion it was resolved on the Motion of Mr. J.W. Fraser, seconded by Mr. Cloake "That the Secretary's salary be increased to £475 per annum as from the 31st. October, 1955."

The Secretary thanked members for their confidence in his services and assured them that he would continue to serve the Association to the best of his ability. He mentioned that he was at present experiencing staffing difficulties, which may affect his ability to carry on the position, but he was hopeful that these problems would be resolved at an early date.

RESIGNATION OF EXECUTIVE MEMBER.

The Secretary read a letter from Mr. T. Pearson tendering his resignation from the Executive following his election to the Honey Marketing Authority. Mr. Pearson regretted that he was leaving the Executive on which body he had enjoyed serving, but felt that it was not in the best interests of the Industry that he serve both bodies

All members spoke highly of Mr. Pearson's work on the Executive and his resignation was accepted with regret.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW EXECUTIVE MEMBER.

It was proposed by Mr. Williams seconded by Mr. J.W. Fraser "That Mr. R.V. Glasson of Blackball be appointed a member of this Executive to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Pearson's resignation."

All members spoke highly of Mr. Glasson, of his interest in furthering the work of the Association and of the manner in which he successfully maintained the work of the West Coast Branch in his capacity of Branch Secretary.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

LEVY FOR DELEGATES EXPENSES.

Mr. Lorimer expressed his concern at the fact that many branches were not being represented at Conference owing to the considerable cost incurred by Delegates in attending. When Conferences were not held in a fairly central position the travelling expenses for some branch delegates were extremely heavy. Conferences, to be completely successful must be representative and it was therefore vital that all branches should have delegates in attendance. He suggested that a levy, similar to the former Journal levy, should be placed on all members and the revenue from the levy distributed to branches for the subsidising of delegates expenses.

Other members pointed out that in the majority of cases branch delegates met their own expenses. Most beekeepers were free at the time of year when Conferences were held and looked upon Conference as an excuse for a holiday. Some branches did subsidise their delegates expenses to a small degree. It was generally felt that the suggestion of a levy on all members subscriptions for this purpose would not be at all well received and the Chairman suggested to Mr. Lorimer that the matter be brought forward as a remit from South Auckland Branch at the next Conference.

FIXING OF CONFERENCE DATES.

Mr Lorimer recommended that in view of experience at the Greymouth Conference, two days only be set aside for Conference this year and one day for the Executive Meeting. The Executive should endeavour to curtail unnecessary expense wherever possible he said.

Other members did not agree that Conference should be cut to

two days as there was no indication of how much business would be coming forward. It was the only opportunity that Beekeepers had of getting together and discussing their common problems. If experience in 1956 showed that the Conference could be shortened to two days the Executive would be on better ground for making the alteration.

A motion moved by Mr. Lorimer that 1956 Conference occupy only two days lapsed for want of a seconder.

Mr. J.W. Fraser advised that the Invercargill Licensing Trust had set aside accommodation from the afternoon of Monday 23rd. July, 1956 to after breakfast on Friday 27th. July, 1956.

Accordingly it was decided that the Executive meet on the Monday and that Conference be held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 24th, 25th, and 26th. July, 1956.

NEXT EXECUTIVE MEETING.

As it appeared likely that business would be arising which would require the attention of the Executive before Conference it was left to the Secretary and President to arrange the date of the next Executive meeting as required.

CONFIRMED.

DATE 29/2/56.....

CHAIRMAN E.D. Williams